

DEFENSE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PRESS RELEASE

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG), Department of Defense (DoD), announced today that on Wednesday, October 24, 2001, Colonel Charles P. Datema, U.S. Air Force (retired), pled guilty in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Virginia, before the Honorable Judge Welton Curtis Sewell, to a one count criminal information (misdemeanor) charging him with violating the 2-year restriction on former officers of the executive branch.

From 1994 through November 1996, Datema was a Colonel in the U.S. Air Force assigned as an official of the NRO, an intelligence agency of the United States. While assigned there, Datema was responsible for certain research projects funded by the NRO. One project approved by Datema was developed by Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), a Government contractor. In November 1998, Datema retired from the Air Force and went to work for SAIC. Within 2 years of his retirement and termination from the NRO, Datema knowingly made a communication to the NRO with the intent to influence that agency on behalf of SAIC. The maximum penalty for this offense is term of imprisonment of not more than 1 year, a fine of not more than \$100,000, a special assessment, and 1 year supervised release.

Sentencing is scheduled for January 15, 2002.

The investigation was conducted by the Defense Criminal Investigative Service (the criminal investigative arm of the OIG, DoD); the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) Office of the Inspector General; and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The criminal prosecution was handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney (AUSA) Stephen Learned, Eastern District of Virginia.

The point of contact regarding this press release is Joseph A. McMillan, Special Agent in Charge (SAC), Mid-Atlantic Field Office. SAC McMillan may be contacted at (703) 604-8440.

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